Serial No. 10/696,508 Docket No. K06-163681M/TBS

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

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- 1. (Original) A vehicle steering apparatus comprising:
  - a steering mechanism for turning a steerable tired-wheel;
  - a steering actuator for providing a steering force to the steering mechanism;
- a load detecting unit for detecting a tire load, which is a load applied to a tire of a vehicle; and

a steering control unit for controlling the steering actuator according to the tire load detected by the load detecting unit.

- (Currently Amended) The vehicle steering apparatus according to Claim 1,
  wherein the load detecting unit comprises an air pressure detecting unit for detecting
  the an air pressure of the tire.
- (Previously Presented) The vehicle steering apparatus according to Claim 1,
  wherein the load detecting unit comprises a stress detecting unit for detecting a stress
  applied to the tire.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The vehicle steering apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein the stress detecting unit preferably includes a left side stress detecting unit and a right side stress detecting unit for detecting stresses applied to the a left side and the a right side of the tire, respectively, when viewed toward the a direction of travel of the vehicle.